

CAMBRIDGE

Sent Rotary
Sept. 6, 1978

Fine Joe.

I learned while I was away from Korea just how relative and ambiguous the word "old" really is.^{It means different things in diff.} What is old in America is very young in Korea. Back in Indiana, in the American mid-west I found that 150 years makes something very old. In the little city on the Ohio River where my father was born they've declared my grandfather's house a cultural treasure - when it was only built in the last century, in 1832. Well, that's not old for Korea. I was born in a house in Pyongyang built against an old city wall that was first erected 3,000 years ago, back in the time of David and Solomon. That's really old, but it was hardly considered anything special in Korea - just an old wall.

England is somewhere in-between. Not so old as Korea and not so young as America. But it is old - and Cambridge is a touch old, old England. The main street of town is a part of an old Roman ~~Roman~~ Road that ran, ten thousand years ago, from London to the north. Constantine the Great was crowned Roman Emperor in York, just north of Cambridge, and probably marched along that road on his way back to Italy to claim the imperial throne. That was about 300 AD.

But the pride of Cambridge - the university is not that old. In Korean terms we'd say it was founded in the Koryo dynasty. It was in 1209

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in 1209 (a little less than 800 years ago) that ~~about~~ ^{about} some 3,000 clerks and students at "the other place" (Oxford) ~~were left in anger or~~ and either left in anger or ^{were sent about a hundred miles and} were expelled for ~~some~~ ^{their} angry demonstrations. A large group of them settled at Cambridge in ~~the~~ ^{some} old monasteries ^{there they} began to gather together for study and lectures, and from these medieval begin^{nings} a university grew. The city still has a medieval look about it - narrow streets, great chapels and churches, and stone-stone buildings everywhere, some massive, some intricately carved like stone lace. ~~The Middle Ages are still a recent history in Cambridge. Erasmus lived~~

~~Cambridge~~ Cambridge is beautiful, ~~is~~ British and rather royal.

England's kings, when they went to school, went to Cambridge, not Oxford.

Brit Prince Charles is the first ~~to~~ actually graduate as a regular student. Kings and Queens built its ~~most~~ ^{greatest} building -

The three Henrys (Henry 6, 7 and most famous of all Henry 8) built the world famous King's College Chapel "that cliff-like wall of buttressed (pinnacled) stone". Two Queens built the chapel of St. Johns (Queen Mary Tudor and Queen Eliz. I). And the present Chancellor of the University is Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh. And thanks to a King, James I, 350 years ago, the University had the privilege, until very recently, of having its own representatives in Parliament - 2 university

~~The old British universities~~, Cambridge and Oxford, are a breed by themselves. They're like no other schools in the world that I know of. They make their own rules. For example - in America I know it takes four years, generally, ~~as a rule~~ to get thru college. The Oxbridges (that is Camb. + Ox) require only three years. And you don't ^{try to} tell them that's a ~~cheap education~~. In one thing, they'll say their students are smart enough to learn in three years what it would take anyone else to learn in four. And more important - they require

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an extra year of HS preparation before a student can be admitted.

Another difference is the M.A. degree. ^{Their attitude to degrees.} That's the important master's degree at Cambridge ^{It is the M.A.}.

at Cambridge is not the A.B., or even the doctor's. But strangely enough, it takes ^{extra classes to get} ^{You don't even have to write a thesis!} two years to study for an M.A. ^{Ample time} Anyone receiving a Cambridge A.B. needs to wait only two more years - ^{Waiting, not} studying - and he automatically receives the Cambridge M.A. And

when Americans like me show up with a proud Ph.D., they good-humoredly ^{status} ~~egregious~~ whittle us down to size and classify us as "M.A. ^{status} ~~egregious~~". Which, to them, is a compliment.

Still another difference is the ^{relative} ~~rugged~~ independence of the Colleges.

The Colleges of an American ^{Korean} university are ~~all~~ always subordinate and dependent units of the university. And they are classified as distinct from each other by their specialties - the College of Fine Arts, ~~at Seoul National~~ the College of Engineering, etc. ~~to~~ ~~believe~~ They are really little more than glorified Departments of study. The real identity of the College is not that it is Fine Arts, or Engineering - but that it's Yonsei, or Seoul National or Kyung Hee (in Korea) - or Yale, Harvard or Princeton in the U.S.

Not so at ~~Oxford~~ Cambridge (at Oxford). ~~There you cannot even enter Cambridge University.~~ There the colleges have identities and personalities all their own - independent from each other, and relatively unrelated to the subjects they teach. There is no college of Fine Arts, or Engineering or Education. No matter what your major (in U.S. terms) may be - you can enter any college, if it will accept you. In fact, you can't enroll in the university - first you have to enter one of the

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Colleges, each of which teaches everything or almost everything.

They may have their specialties - Churchill College ~~concentrates on~~ the natural sciences, but it is not beyond accepting a student in Medieval Persian; Jesus is known for Medicine - Harvey, who discovered the circulation of the blood was at Jesus - but it will also take students for theology. Trinity is famous for literature - Byron, Wordsworth, Tennyson, Igbal & Palustan - but just as famous for science - Isaac Newton who discovered gravity (his apple tree - a descendant - still grows outside his dormitory room.) - and astronomer & physicist like Eddington & Jeans. Emmanuel College was noted as the seat of Puritan theology - John Harvard, who went to North America and started a small school there was an Emmanuel man. But so was Charles Darwin who was neither a Puritan nor a theologian. ~~The~~ ~~so~~ The Oxbridge (Cambridge + Oxford) colleges educate the whole man - they say - not just one part of his brain. It ~~is~~ teaching is done by ~~the~~ ~~the~~ personal reading, guided by tutors. That's ~~the~~ college. Lecturing is done by the university - in the lecture halls. They teach. And teaching, in a Cambridge College is not lecturing. The University professors lecture. They're the specialists - and that's important in today's technical specialized world. But a Cambridge education begins in the College, ^{not the university lecture rooms. At the Colleges} ~~not the~~ ~~the~~ ~~and the~~ residential colleges where ^{live, eat one} ~~each~~ students reads endlessly, and writes essays every week under the personal supervision of a tutor, called a don in Cambridge. There is no bypassing reading and writing for nuclear physics there - which is why, they say, Cambridge graduates are not just smart, or knowledgeable or brilliant. They are educated.

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It's a diff. kind of education.

~~But it is different.~~ They're not afraid to make their own rules - or even to break them own rules, in their own way. Ely - 16 miles.

"For the purpose of this univ. Ely shall be declared to be only ^{two} ~~one~~ miles from Cambridge."

There is also a rule that no dogs shall be allowed in the Colleges. Quite a few of the Masters (the Heads) of the colleges had dogs, I discovered, but they are all officially registered as cats.

Well, a great deal more could and should be said about Cambridge - its great library - by law, a copy of every book printed in Eng. must be deposited in that library. It has one of the finest collections of Korean pottery in the world - and when Mr. Gomfertz, a good Cambridge man, adds his collection to it, as he has stipulated in his will - I suspect it may even be a better collection than any here in Seoul - including the National Museum.

But what I liked most about it were its people. Not at all the aloof, unapproachable Englishmen of tradition who won't even speak to you ~~unless~~ unless properly introduced - but warm, friendly and interested even in an outsider like me - ~~who~~ ^{an} American speaks American, not English, and comes from far away Korea. Let me close with an example. Sir Harold Bailey.

And a perfect place for a miscreant like me. Where else would they confer ^{confused Cambridge} ~~the degree~~ with the Chancellor, saying, "By the authority committed unto me, I admit you to the degree of Bach. of Arts in the name of the Father & the Son & the Holy Spirit." After ^{which} ~~which~~ a knowing like me does ^{would like that what can} ~~can~~ but say "Amen", and sit down!



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Fine Joe: I learned while I was away.

1. "Old" - a relative term. Means diff things in different places.
 - America
 - Korea
 - England - not so old as K.

2. But pride of Cambridge, the U. not that old

1209

Medieval look

Medieval memories - Erasmus.

3. Cambridge is beautiful, British and rather royal.

When they went to school, Brit. kgs to Camb.

Prince Charles

3 Kings - King's Chapel (Henry II & III, + 8th)

2 Queens - St. John's Chapel (Mary, Elizabeth I)

James I - 2 members of Parliament

Prince Philip

4. Cambridge and Oxford a breed by themselves - make own rules.

3 years to graduate

B.A. is important degree

Independent Colleges

Each teaches everything - the Univ. lectures.

5. Not open to all

Ely

"Dogs not allowed"

5. A great deal more could be said:-

Library
Museum - Bone collection

But what I liked most about it were its people.

Not aloof.

Sir Harold Bailey.

~~Well - a great deal~~

And I find it a perfect place for the research I was doing. Where else - in getting the coveted Cambridge degree at command:

"By the authority committed unto me, I admit you to the degree of Bach. of Arts, in the name of the Father, Son & H.S."

After words like that, what can an old bairnsong like me do, but say "Amen", and sit down!

Cambridge - A Touch of Old England

Rotary, Seoul
Sept 6, 1978

England, and particularly Cambridge, made a fine point of transition between Korea and America on our leave of absence these past two years. Korea is so old - with its 4,000 years of tradition stretching back to Kija and Tangun. And America is so young. My grandfather's house in Indiana was built only 150 years ago - in 1832 - but it's already considered ~~as a cultural~~ an ancient ~~cultural~~ treasure and is kept as a museum by the town fathers in that little mid-western town. ^{So time is relative and} England is a happy medium - young perhaps by Korean standards, but very old to Americans. And the best of old England is ~~for~~ the university town of Cambridge, where we spent 8 happy months in 1976-77.

Cambridge is old by any standards - its main street is a stretch of the ^{2000 yrs old} Roman road, straight as an arrow, that marched north from London through the marshes of E. Anglia toward the border of Empire that now separates Scotland from England. Constantine the Great marched ~~that~~ along that road on his way home to Rome after being crowned Roman Emperor by his troops in York, not far north of Cambridge 1650 yrs. ago. They still turn up Roman coins sometimes in the back yards of Cambridge houses.

But the ^{university} pride of Cambridge - its university - is not that old. It goes back only to Koryo-dynasty times (in Korean terms). It was

Cambridge - Roman fort + Via Devana (main road). Romans left in 411 AD.

Oliver Cromwell

Sir Harold

"Erasmus lives!"

King Henry VIII

Prince Philip

Prince Charles

In Latin - "By the authority committed unto me I admit you to the
degree of Bachelor in Arts in the name of the Father + the Son + the Holy Spirit."

King's College Chapel, that "cliff-like wall of bathed stone" with its lofty pinnacles. The
King was Henry VI, in 1441 father.

Funded - 1209?; 1246?; 1318 officially recognized by John 22nd, at request of Edw. II

Chancery

Newton

Bacon entered when he was 12. In 1676 W. Wotton was admitted when only 9
years old - he demonstrated at age 9 1/2 that he could read + correctly translate
Hebrew, Lat in + Greek.

B.A. - three years.

Proctors - (university officials) have authority in streets - but not in colleges.

Unhappily, caught climbing out of college window after hours - Proctor fines him 6 shillings -
then reduces it to 3 sh. - for he was only helping out the window -

Oldest college - Peterhouse, 1284.

Priors - Ely

No dogs - so Masters' dogs regularly registered as cats.

The essentials of a college: a lodgings for the Master; a chapel in which to pray,
a library in which to study; a hall in which to eat, + quarters where the scholars
could sleep.

College Teachers - not "professors" - but the Masters + Fellows, probably the Pros.

Wentworth

12
9.30

check -
Wmchur - # 21.30

Round Chab. - 12th c. intern

The Castle - Wm. the Conqueror, 1068.

Fitzwiliam - 1869 for non-Catholics students. (Originally Fitzwilliam Hall).

Dorms - built like a nursery (which it originally was).

Sidney Sussex - O. Cromwell. entered on the day Shakespeare died - 23 Apr. 1616.

Christ's - Milton - still has all mulberry trees there.

Emmanuel - founded by Puritans. John Harvard.

Cavendish lab - birthplace of science of atomic physics.

James I gave the U. the right to have its own 2 M.P. (not withdrawn until after WW II).

Women - in 1881 admitted to examinations, but no degree until 1921; equality in 1948.

Ch. hall - Mathematics + Science.

Cambridge - still a garden in spring.

Old bath - "an undergraduate sat in a tub saucer before his sitting room fire & poured a jug of warm water over his head."

The Univ. of the Reformation - Latimer, etc. Only one Reformation (Hull) based in Cambridge itself, 1556. And 4 years later - Univ. restored degrees to those (incl. Bucer) whom it had persecuted.

Lady Margaret Beaufort. "a gentleman, a scholar & a saint, & having been three times married, she took a vow of celibacy. What more could be expected of any woman?"

Her coat of arms with the "yales" - not 'defined antelope', but ancient practice of tiring an animal's horns to point fore-and-aft, one over nose, one toward the tail. - p. 115.

Trinity College - founded by Henry III - its Master is still appointed by the crown.

Prince Charles

Sir Isaac Newton

Thackeray

Macaulay, the historian

Worrell

Byron

Thomas Cartwright (Presty.)

Chapel begun by Mary Tudor, finished by Elizabeth.
Tennyson

Christ's - Milton

America in Cambridge - John Harvard

Peterhouse Chapel (St. May the less) - contains tablet to memory of Rev. Godfrey Washington - with family coat-of-arms: stars + stripes mounted by eagle. Erected in 1746, 40 yrs. later borrowed for U.S. flag.

Fitzwilliam - one of oldest public museums in Gt. Britain,
its coin collection has 100,000 coins.

best Rembrandt sketches.

Korean pottery - Grampian

Queens' - Margaret of Anjou, + wife of Edw. IV (Eliz. Woodville).

Erasmus (1510-13), Prog. + speech.

Kings - founded by Henry VI.

Chapel - world-famous for 16th-c. glass, fan-tracery ceiling

Caius (Kemp) - specializes in medicine. - William Harvey, disc. circulation of blood.

Trinity Hall - law + rowing.

Clare College - built like a Jacobean palace - second oldest (1326)

Peterhouse - oldest.

Winney - Codex Bezae, Gutenberg Bible

St. John's - Lady Margaret Beaufort, mother of Henry VII, founder

Straw roofs -